



Our reference: **DAERA/26-613**



Marine & Fisheries Division

Clare House
303 Airport Road West
Sydenham Intake
Belfast BT3 9ED

By Email:



Tel: 0300 200 7860

Email: anglingcorrespondence@daera-ni.gov.uk

21 August 2026

Dear

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 1st August 2026. The Department has completed searches for recorded information falling within the scope of your request. Some relevant information has been identified and is being disclosed with this response. For the remaining parts of your request, the Department does not hold recorded information, as set out in the table below.

1. Copies of all surviving records concerning the development, stocking and promotion of Roughan Lough as a coarse-fishing venue between 1965 and 1990. These should include proposals, reports, correspondence, maps, plans, minutes and internal memoranda.	Following searches of the Department's available records, no further recorded information falling within the scope of these parts of your request has been identified beyond the lease documentation disclosed with this response.
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2. The dates on which fish were introduced or stocked, the species and quantities involved, and the cost of each stocking operation, where recorded. 3. The date, cost and source of funding for the construction or improvement of the car park, access lane, fishing places or any other facilities provided at the lough. 4. The date and cost of providing the brown road signs advertising coarse fishing at Roughan Lough, together with any records concerning their subsequent removal. 7. Whether the Department obtained or attempted to obtain a permanent public right of access to the lough and car park. If it did not, please provide any recorded explanation for that decision. 8. The date on which the Department ceased stocking, maintaining or promoting Roughan Lough and copies of records explaining why its involvement ended. 9. Copies of any decision authorising the closure, abandonment, disposal or transfer of the car park and other publicly funded facilities. 11. Details of any Departmental contact or correspondence with Roughan Angling Club concerning its reported ten-year lease of the fishing rights beginning in or around 2014. 13. The total identifiable amount of public money spent upon Roughan Lough, including stocking, construction, maintenance, signage and promotion.	The exception at Regulation 12(4)(a) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 applies to the remaining information requested, as the Department does not hold that information. Given the age of the matters referred to, any routine administrative records that may once have existed could have been disposed of in line with the Department's Records Disposal Schedule, which complies with the Public Records Act (NI) 1923 and the Disposal of Documents Order 1925.
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5. Copies of any lease, licence, access agreement, wayleave, easement or other arrangement made between the Department and the owners or occupiers of Roughan Lough and the surrounding land. 6. Records identifying who owned the lough, car-park site and access lane when the Departmental investment was undertaken.	The Department has identified three historic lease documents relevant to these parts of your request. Copies of these documents are enclosed with this response at Annex A. Personal data relating to third parties has been redacted under Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. A copy of the Department's Lawfulness, Fairness and Transparency Assessment is provided at Annex B. The enclosed lease documents contain information regarding the historical lease arrangements associated with Roughan Lough and the car park site identified by the Department.
10. The present ownership or legal status of any land, structure, access right or other asset acquired or paid for by the Department in connection with this project.	The Department does not hold recorded information regarding the present ownership or legal status of any land, structure, access right or other asset acquired or paid for by the Department in connection with this project. Regulation 12(4)(a) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 therefore applies. The requester may wish to contact Land & Property Services, which may hold information relevant to this part of the request.
12. Whether the Department presently considers Roughan Lough, its former car park or access lane to be open to the public for angling or any other recreational purpose.	The Department does not own or control Roughan Lough, the access lane or the former car park and is therefore unable to confirm that these areas are currently available for public access or recreational use. Anglers are responsible for ensuring that they have the

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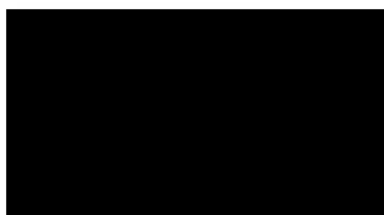
	permission of the relevant owner or fishing-rights holder before accessing or fishing at the lough.
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If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,



DAERA Inland Fisheries

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